



LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

PROGRAM GUIDE

2024-2025



TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS	2
LEADERSHIP ACADEMY OVERVIEW	3
A UNIQUE LEADERSHIP LEARNING EXPERIENCE.....	3
LANCASTER LEADERSHIP ACADEMY MISSION	3
COMPLIMENTARY COURSES	3
“WHY BE PART OF LEADERSHIP?”	3
LEADERSHIP ACADEMY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM	4
NASC DISTINGUISHED LEADER PROGRAM.....	4
LEADERSHIP ACADEMY COURSE DESCRIPTIONS	4
LA: EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION FOR LEADERSHIP	4
LA: PROCESSES OF LEADERSHIP	5
LEADERSHIP IN ACTION	6
ACADEMY: INTERNSHIP	6
FOUNDATIONS TEACHERS’ ASSISTANT	7
LEADERSHIP ACADEMY COMPLIMENTARY CHOICES	8
MICROSOFT EXCEL & POWERPOINT (<i>FORMERLY ‘APPLIED DIGITAL SKILLS’</i>).....	8
COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS	8
KEYBOARDING & MICROSOFT WORD (<i>FORMERLY ‘DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS’</i>)	8
JOURNALISM I.....	8
JOURNALISM II.....	8
PUBLIC SPEAKING	8
SENIOR PREP FOR SUCCESS.....	8
COMPUTER GRAPHICS	8
COMPUTER GRAPHICS II	8
AP PSYCHOLOGY	8
COMMUNITY SERVICE CREDIT	8

Leadership Academy Overview

A Unique Leadership Learning Experience

The Lancaster Leadership Academy is an exciting Academy at Lancaster High School designed to provide students with coursework and other educational experiences that will enhance their leadership skills. These experiences will enable them to become highly successful in college, in their chosen career and in future community involvement.

The focus of the Leadership Academy will be to develop individual student leaders in the areas of responsible citizenship, communication, goal setting, group processes, as well as business, organizational and managerial skills. Students in this Academy will be required to take an active role both in the high school and the greater Lancaster community.

Lancaster Leadership Academy Mission

The purpose of the Lancaster High School Leadership Academy is to provide a structured learning environment that will allow (help develop) student leaders to (who will) make a positive impact on our school's climate and our community as well as to enhance those skills necessary for them (our students) to become active, productive citizens.

Leadership Academy students must complete a 4.5 credit sequence over the course of their sophomore, junior and senior years with a cohort group of students in their grade. Candidates for this Academy should be positive, highly self-motivated individuals who are willing to take risks and who are willing to put in the time necessary to make a positive difference for others.

Complimentary Courses

To complete the Leadership Academy credit sequence, Academy students must choose an additional 1 credit from a selection of complementary coursework in other departments. Acceptable courses are listed within the course descriptions section (below) but students may request optional courses on a case by case basis. These courses have been chosen because they augment the work done in the core Academy courses. One additional credit is utilized as to not overwhelm the student's choice of elective courses throughout their high school experience.

"Why be part of leadership?"

As a member of the Leadership Academy you will develop skills for success in college, career and life:

- Communication
- Time management
- Problem solving
- Teamwork
- Commitment
- Organization
- Self-discipline
- Responsibility
- Risk-taking
- Stress management
- Goal setting
- Conflict resolution
- Meeting management
- Professional writing skills
- Presentation skills
- Public speaking
- Community service

Leadership Academy Internship Program

Experience an Internship Program where you will interact with adult leaders in the community that will lead to valuable on-site leadership experiences and future networking opportunities.

NASC Distinguished Leader Program

Students in the Leadership Academy complete the NASC Distinguished Leaders Program throughout their Sophomore and Junior years through their Academy Classes. The topics are broken up as outlined below and augment the curriculum for each class. At the conclusion of their junior year the students meet with the Academy Directors and present their application. Over the past 10 years over 200 students in the Leadership Academy have earned the designation as a NASC Distinguished Leader. This program is structured so that the students will receive the designation of “National Distinguished Student Leader”, a designation that less than 1% of graduating seniors have nationally, in time to place it on their college and scholarship applications.



Leadership Academy Course Descriptions

LA: Effective Communication for Leadership

1325 Grade 10

1 credit

This one-credit, introductory course will challenge students to develop speaking, listening, and writing skills to become successful leaders. Students will expand upon their prior character education experiences by examining and adopting the qualities and characteristics of successful leaders. Students will develop and exhibit time management, organizational and managerial skills, personal growth, strategies for professional interaction with others, as well as goal-setting techniques.

Classroom experiences will include but not be limited to class and school-wide projects and events, journal writing, speeches, interview skills, electronic, phone, and interpersonal communication, goal setting, time management, organization, stress management, and team building. Students will make periodic contributions to their Leadership Portfolios in preparation for the National Distinguished Student Leader Program.

Additionally, students will complete the following service hours opportunities.

- ☐ 1st & 2nd quarters
 - Complete 5 school service hours each quarter
- ☐ 3rd & 4th quarters
 - Complete 5 school & 5 community service hours each quarter

LA: Processes of Leadership

30 Grade 11

1 credit

In this one-credit course, students will develop and expand effective group process techniques and business and marketing skills. The class will explore topics such as motivating others, goal setting, group process, problem solving, conflict resolution, marketing strategies, meeting structures, etc. Classroom experiences will include but not be limited to journal writing, oral presentations, group projects, school-wide events, and written tasks.

Additionally, students will complete the following service hours opportunities.

1st & 2nd quarters

- ☐ Complete 10 school service hrs each quarter
- ☐ Complete 5 community service hrs each quarter

3rd & 4th quarters

- ☐ Complete 10 school service hrs each quarter
- ☐ Complete 10 community service hrs each quarter

This course will introduce students to the project-planning model with steps such as goal setting, proposals, objective charts, and evaluations. Student work is a mixture of traditional assignments and hands-on projects, group project planning and implementation (including running various school events), as well as involvement in the planning of the annual Leadership Academy Trip. Students also have an opportunity to attend various local and national leadership conferences throughout the year. Active school involvement and service-learning hours are required.

Leadership in Action

1416 Grade 12

1 credit

This one-credit course is project-based, with students utilizing a project-planning model to make a positive difference in the school and community. Students will exhibit responsibility, perseverance, respect and integrity while working as teams to set goals, design timelines, write proposals, create publicity, evaluate outcomes and write final reports.

Leadership in Action students work in teams and complete one major project per quarter. Examples of past projects include:

- Lancaster-Depew Week and Spirit Week activities such as the Bonfire, Motorcade, Spirit Assemblies, Powder Puff Game, Homecoming Dance, Spirit Bowl, Mr. Lancaster, Building Decorations, etc.
- Social activities such as the Courtyard Dance, Freshman Mixer, Spring Courtyard Dance, Prom, Homecoming, etc.
- Holiday projects such as Jingle Links, Cookie Marathon, Coloring Contest, Holiday Food Drive, Santa Grams, Christmas Tree Contest, Building Decorations, etc.
- Senior Class projects such as Red Cross Blood Drives, Senior Mural, Senior Dinner Dance, Senior Apparel Sale, Senior Day, Senior Recognition Program, etc.
- Community service projects such as Group Home Socials, Food Drives, US Troop Support Program, Project Clean Your Locker, Lancaster Youth Bureau Holiday Distribution, etc.
- School service projects such as Freshman Orientation, 8th Grade Information Night, Recycling, and Appreciation Luncheons for various LCSD employee groups, Class Mural Revitalization, SOAR, etc.

Students complete assignments outside of class time as a component of their quarterly grade. Each quarter, students must:

- ☐ Complete 15 school service hours
- ☐ Complete 10 community service hours

Over the years the Leadership in Action class has become a very active and high-profile class that demands much time and effort as well as constant commitment. This course will be rewarding for those who enjoy a mental, emotional, and physical challenge. It may be too stressful for those students who would like to enjoy a relaxing senior year; however the rigor is an excellent way to prepare students for college and life beyond high school.

Academy: Internship

9050 Grade 11 (Spring), Grade 11/12 (Summer) or Grade 12 (Fall)

½ credit

⊗ Prerequisite: Enrollment in AVPA, LLA or HCA.

⊗ Required: Own transportation to/from mentor's job site

► Note 1: Not all internship locations are located in Lancaster, NY

► Note 2: Students must understand the time commitment and therefore schedules must be considered prior to registering

The CEIP program is designed to give students hands-on experience in the career field of their choice. It also includes classroom learning on important workplace topics, such as resume preparation and effective interviewing techniques, teamwork, projecting a professional image, and job motivation and benefits. Students are placed with a local company in their desired field to complete the required internship hours.

Foundations Teachers' Assistant

1002 Grades 11,12 (full year – every day, same class period)

½ credit

The Foundations for Success Program has been designed to help underclassmen adjust to life in the High School and equip each student with skills and knowledge to be successful throughout their high school career and beyond.

Each Foundations classroom (25-28 students) has a teacher who serves as the guide as the students grow together through different lessons, exercises, and experiences. A major factor in the effectiveness of this "different" type of class is a Student Mentor or Teacher's Assistant (TA). Each classroom (you will be assigned to the same class period, every day, for the entire school year) will have one or two upperclassmen TA(s) who will assist the teacher in planning and implementing many of the classroom exercises and lessons.

The Role of a Foundations Teachers' Assistant

The intention is to have Upperclassmen mentors to serve as Role Models for the underclassmen students participating in the class and as "Teaching Assistants" for the classroom Teacher. Your responsibilities will include attending your Foundations Class, assisting the teacher in designing and the implementing classroom activities and lessons, and various tasks all with the goal of helping the students in your class grow and become more comfortable at LHS. At the conclusion of the school year you will earn 1/2 credit for serving in this capacity.

Leadership Academy Complimentary Choices

To complete the Leadership Academy credit sequence, Academy students must choose an additional 1 credit from a selection of complementary coursework in other departments. Acceptable courses are listed below but students may request optional courses on a case-by-case basis.

★ Refer to the Course Description Guide for additional course information

Microsoft Excel & PowerPoint (Formerly 'Applied Digital Skills')

Microsoft Office Suite including Certifications.

7523 Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ credit

Communication Systems

► Note: This course may not be offered every year, check description guide.

9132 Grades 9,10,11,12

1 credit

Keyboarding & Microsoft Word (Formerly 'Digital Communications')

Microsoft Word Certification & Google Applications

9012 Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

½ credit

Journalism I

1316 Grades 10, 11, 12

½ credit

↔ DUAL ENROLLMENT OPTION AVAILABLE

Journalism II

1336 Grades 10, 11, 12

½ credit

↔ DUAL ENROLLMENT OPTION AVAILABLE

Public Speaking

1414 Grades 10, 11, 12

½ credit

Senior Prep for Success

1004 Grade 12

½ credit

Computer Graphics

9127 Grades 9,10, 11, 12

½ credit

Computer Graphics II

► Note: This course may not be offered every year, check description guide

⊗ Recommended: Computer Graphics I

9128 Grades 9,10, 11, 12

½ credit

AP Psychology

⊗ Recommended: Regents or AP American History and/or teacher recommendation

2029 Grades 11, 12

1 credit

Community Service Credit

⊗ ½ credit upon completion of an additional 90 hours of documented community service.